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Most recently, Sy has served as president of the board of directors of SOS—Sonoma Overnight Shelter—which he and other members of the community started in an effort to extend a helping hand to the homeless and working poor who need assistance with restoring their self-sufficiency. It is a project he has dedicated himself to.

First of all, Sy points out, it is a shelter; it is designed for those who are temporarily homeless. "Most of the time the people we're dealing with are women or single moms," says Sy. These are usually women who have been dependent upon a man and suddenly find themselves alone or alone with children and without life skills needed for independent living. They may stay with family or friends for awhile until that becomes untenable and then they are out on the streets.

"And this," Sy says, referring to the astronomical Bay Area real estate prices, "is a tough place to find an affordable space."

His compassionate service is one reason Sonoma Mayor Joanne Sanders chose Sy for Alcalde. She has known Sy for 20 years and says, "When it's driving rain, late at night, and the phone rings, he's the kind of guy who'll go out and find a place for someone to stay. He's an unsung hero."

Madam Speaker, we would like to join with the City of Sonoma in recognizing the contributions Sy Lenz has made to the lives of the residents of the Sonoma Valley area.

HONORING SY LENZ

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise, along with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to recognize the gentleman honored by the City of Sonoma as 2008 Alcalde—Honorary Mayor of the Year, Sy Lenz. The honorary position of Alcalde has been bestowed each year since 1975 on a person who has enhanced the welfare of Sonoma by his or her unselfish contributions to the community.

As Alcalde, Sy will be given a silver-headed cane as a symbol of his distinction and will appear in parades, grand openings and other special events throughout the year.

Although Sy and his wife, Harriet, have lived in Sonoma since 1989, when they moved here to be near their daughter, Sy leapt directly into community service. He used his talents as a retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel and executive recruiter to volunteer on the strategic plan for the local school district. He also became active in the Kiwanis Club and with La Luz Center, a local nonprofit serving immigrants, as well as founding and developing Congregation Shir Shalom.

"One project I worked on was an attempt to establish an in-town teen club," Sy says. "We raised thousands of dollars hopefully to find a site, and although it remained out of our reach, it led to the creation of the 'No-Name Cafe' at Sonoma Valley High School."

Sy's service is not limited to the younger generation. He has participated in delivering holiday meals to seniors and shut-ins, and was part of the effort to create the Senior Shade Program which provides senior citizens transportation to and from the town's holiday parades and a shady place from which to watch.

Most recently, Sy has served as president of the board of directors of SOS—Sonoma Overnight Shelter—which he and other members of the community started in an effort to extend a helping hand to the homeless and working poor who need assistance with restoring their self-sufficiency. It is a project he has dedicated himself to.

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COMMEMORATING THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE—

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Day of Remembrance. February 19th, 2008 marks the 66th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066, which authorized the incarceration of over 120,000 Americans of Japanese, Italian and German ancestry. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which formally acknowledged and apologized for violations of fundamental civil liberties and constitutional rights of the Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II.

The Day of Remembrance is of particular importance to me as I spent part of my childhood in Amache, an internment camp in southeastern Colorado. My experiences at Amache helped shape my outlook on life and influenced my political beliefs.

The purpose of the Day of Remembrance is to learn from our nation's past transgressions. In 1942, our nation's leaders failed us. Some 120,000 people were taken from their homes and incarcerated, simply because of their ancestry. Those incarcerated were denied their rights as lawful U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents.

Though the Day of Remembrance has been established to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the restriction, exclusion, and internment of individuals and families during World War II, we must continue to work to educate the public about the internment of Americans in order to prevent similar injustices from ever happening again. We must not allow history to repeat itself.

In this post-9/11 world, it is imperative that we remain vigilant in the protection of our civil liberties. As we continue to fight the war against terrorism, we must reaffirm our commitment to the civil liberties granted in the Constitution and resist the urge to give into wartime hysteria. Falling victim to the same kind of racial prejudice and discrimination exhibited during World War II completely disregards the lessons of the war and the purpose of a Day of Remembrance. I am hopeful that my colleagues in both chambers will appropriate funds for Public Law 109-441 to ensure the historic preservation of Japanese American internment sites.

Although the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 formally apologizes for violating the rights of Japanese Americans during World War II, we must not forget about the experience of Japanese Latin Americans who were also unjustly treated. These people were extricated from Latin America and brought to the United States, only to have their documents taken away from them. Without proper documentation, these Japanese Latin Americans became individuals without a country and were subsequently used as pawns in exchange for POWs in the Pacific theater. H.R. 662, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act, seeks to rectify the injustices committed against these Japanese Latin Americans by establishing a Commission to investigate the relocation, internment, and deportations of Japanese Latin Americans and to recommend appropriate actions. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor H.R. 662 to continue the healing process started by the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Now, more than ever, we must strive to balance our cherished civil liberties with the need to protect our homeland. Finding this balance is the enduring lesson that the Day of Remembrance teaches us and a lesson that cannot be lost on our nation's policymakers.

LEE BOTTS—

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizens. I have known Lee Botts for many years, and she is one of the most active and involved citizens I have ever known, especially when it comes to her service to protecting the Great Lakes and Lake Michigan's National Lakeshore. Today, Lee is celebrating a milestone, her 80th birthday. In her honor, a celebration will be taking place on Thursday, February 21, 2008, at the Metropolitan Club in Chicago, Illinois.

Lee Botts spent her childhood in Kansas and Oklahoma, and as a young woman, Lee

moved with her four children to Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood. In Chicago, Lee became active in neighborhood associations, such as the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference, and became active in the preservation of the Great Lakes. In 1966, Lee participated in the campaign to acknowledge the Indiana Dunes as a National Lakeshore. While Lee was active in the protection of the lakeshore, she was also a columnist for the Hyde Park Herald, a weekly community publication of which she later became the editor. As well as being active in community press, Lee also established the Hyde Park Garden Fair, which is still held on an annual basis. In the late 1960s, Lee also became a staff member of the Openlands Project in Chicago, an organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing public open space around Chicago and northern Illinois.

In 1971, Lee founded the Lake Michigan Federation, known today as the Alliance for the Great Lakes. The Federation was the first independent citizen organization dedicated to the preservation of a specific Great Lake. As the leader of the Federation, Lee became dedicated to protecting the lakeshore and actively lobbied Congress to tackle issues of environmental protection, focusing on the first federal Clean Water Act. Because of her dedication to the environment, Lee served on the staff of the Environmental Protection Agency for several years when the agency was in its infancy, and in 1977 was appointed by President Carter as the head of the Great Lakes Basin Commission, headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Following this position, Lee worked with Mayor Harold Washington and the city of Chicago as a staff member and consultant for the city's newly developed Department of the Environment.

Lee also founded the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center, a summer camp offering children of U.S. Steel employees an opportunity to learn about the environment and the necessity of its preservation. In addition to the numerous organizations Lee founded, she also made time to serve in various capacities at several other organizations, such as the Save the Dunes Council, the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council, Great Lakes United, the State of Illinois' Task Force of Global Climate Change, the State of Indiana Water Pollution Control Board, Chicago Wilderness, and the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, Lee Botts has given her time and efforts selflessly to the protection of our environment and lakeshore throughout her many years of service. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending her for her lifetime of service and dedication to her community. I also ask that you join me in wishing her a very happy 80th birthday.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this body with another Sunset Memorial.

It is February 13, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before

the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand—just today. That is more than the number of innocent American lives that we lost on September 11th, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,805 days since the tragic judicial fiat called *Roe v. Wade* was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of our own children.

Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over their vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them. And all of them had at least four things in common.

They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. Each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to blindness and invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath. The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says: "No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the Declaration, not the casual notion, but the Declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet Madam Speaker, another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that commitment. We failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died without the protection we should have been given them.

But perhaps tonight, Madam Speaker, maybe someone new who heard this sunset memorial will finally realize that abortion really does kill a baby, that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express, and that 12,805 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that this Nation is great enough to find a better way than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we

find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is February 13, 2008—12,805 days since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

RECOVERY REBATES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, from negative economic data on wages and consumer prices to a falling stock market, there is almost no margin for error in today's tight economy. We face an urgency and a mutual obligation to get it right and ensure no American is forced to live in those margins.

Today's economy weighs very heavily on America's families—and lately, things have gone from bad to worse. In December, the unemployment rate shot up to a 2-year high of 5 percent. December's sales and consumer confidence were at a 5-year low. Oil prices topped \$100 a barrel, and home foreclosures are at an alltime high. And growth last quarter slowed to a glacial .6 percent.

This legislation represents a strong bipartisan agreement on an economic stimulus package that will begin to provide financial relief and income security to the middle class working Americans most at risk in a prospective recession. The Senate voted 18–16 in favor of the package to jumpstart our slowing economy and create jobs here at home, and I am proud of our quick action in both houses to get this done.

Last week, the House approved strong stimulus legislation, and this version continues in that spirit with two additions expanding recovery rebates to an additional 20 million seniors and 250,000 disabled veterans. Our men and women in uniform fought for our Nation, and they deserve all the respect, care and support we can provide.

Building on our work to extend the Child Tax Credit—and my belief that all hard-working low- and middle-income families should receive at least a partial credit—this package will ensure that any family that pays taxes and earned at least \$3000 last year, will get a \$300 rebate per child.

The bill provides refundable child tax credit rebates to approximately 34.2 million children. Families with children will receive a total of \$21.8 billion in refundable rebates, including \$9.8 billion specifically in refundable child tax credits.

It is long past time we finally recognize that the child tax credit should be available to all families, including those who serve in the military.

With the economy in so much difficulty, this is the right approach—immediate, focused on those who need resources and who will spend it. Unlike previous efforts to stimulate the economy, this package is focused on the